

THE SOCIAL SEASON.

A Week of Great Activity Among Society People of Washington.

Every Afternoon and Evening Crowded With Entertainments.

The Movements of Distinguished People at the Capital.

An Extraordinary List of Receptions, Parties, and Balls.

Mrs. McElroy will hold her first reception at the white house from 3 to 5 o'clock this afternoon. Mrs. Waite, Mrs. Carlisle, Mrs. Frelinghuysen, Mrs. Lincoln, Mrs. Gresham, Mrs. S. F. Miller, Mrs. Frank Hisecock, Mrs. Hawley, Mrs. Pendleton, Mrs. Keiser, and the Misses Nevins, of New York, have been invited to assist her. These Saturday afternoon receptions will occur weekly during the season, and will doubtless prove, as last year, among the most agreeable of white house ceremonials.

The wife of Secretary Chandler hopes soon to have her mother, Mrs. Hale, pay her a visit, and remain for some time with her here.

Mrs. Lincoln's mother, Mrs. Harlan, has been somewhat worse for the past week, and her illness has had but few favorable turns lately that have admitted of her setting up. Mrs. Waite is suffering from a severe cold, and was not able to be present at her Tuesday evening reception, nor to go out during the week. Mr. and Mrs. Teal, of New York, have been visiting her during this time, and have accompanied Miss Waite to several entertainments.

This has been more than an ordinarily busy week for society, and every afternoon and evening has been crowded with entertainments. On Monday afternoon Mrs. Yule gave a tea, and in the evening Gen. and Mrs. Anderson gave a dinner; there was a reception at Senator Pendleton's, a fancy dress party at Mrs. Halliday's, a reception at Mrs. Edgar's, and the first of the Bachelors' club Germans at Wornley's was one of the most brilliant affairs of the week. On Tuesday, Mrs. Howard White gave a fancy dress party at Mrs. Halliday's, a reception at Mrs. Edgar's, and the first of the Bachelors' club Germans at Wornley's was one of the most brilliant affairs of the week.

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In the face of the disagreeable weather of Thursday afternoon Mrs. Logan's reception was largely attended. She was assisted in receiving by her daughter, Mrs. Tucker, by the wife of Bishop Simpson, by Mrs. George E. Adams, of Chicago; Mrs. Ransom Dunham, Mrs. Smith, of Springfield; Miss Smith, Miss Pearson, Miss Cannon, and Miss Lowery. Mrs. Logan wore a toilet of golden brown satin and light brocade; Mrs. Tucker wore a black velvet and black silk; Mrs. Simpson wore a black velvet and black silk; Mrs. Adams wore a black velvet and black silk; Mrs. Ransom Dunham wore a black velvet and black silk; Mrs. Smith wore a black velvet and black silk; Miss Pearson wore a black velvet and black silk; Miss Cannon wore a black velvet and black silk; and Miss Lowery wore a black velvet and black silk.

Miss Florence Conger, who has been passing some time with Mr. and Mrs. Chilian Conger, at Odgersburg, Pa., returned last week to be present at Mrs. O. D. Conger's reception on Wednesday. More than a quorum of the senate were present on that occasion, in addition to the other guests, and many of the senators who have been away quite long with the idea of giving senatorial parties, and marking themselves out as a distinct and harmonious company as the large circle of diplomats have always shown themselves.

A lady was recently overheard at an afternoon reception hurrying epithets at the heads of those people who have iron gates to their front yards and shut their visitors to struggle with rusty and obstinate latches, much to the detriment of temper and gloves. Her argument was that in a city where an effective police force and pound laws keep stray cattle out of the streets, a closed gate is wholly unnecessary, and that on reception days, at least, ladies might keep their gates braced or tied back, and both parts of a double gate wide open.

At a Philadelphia wedding last week, that was to be carried out on the English plan, the groom got locked into the pastor's study and could not make his escape. He saw the minutes slipping by and at last, after the crash of the organ, he broke his way through a window, ran down the stairs, and was hurrying down the aisle just as the despairing minister had begun: "If any one knows cause or just impediment why these two persons should not be joined together," &c.

Ex-Representative Pacheco, who has been back and forth between here and New York, has returned to that city, and will leave for the City of Mexico next week to remain some time. Mrs. and Miss Pacheco are still in New York, and will stay there until Gov. Pacheco's return from the southwest. Mrs. Pacheco has gained somewhat during the past few weeks, and hopes to be restored to health as soon as milder weather arrives.

Hon. E. B. Washburne and his wife, of Chicago, have gone to the Atlantic Hot Springs for the winter. Their eldest daughter, formerly Miss Susan Washburne, is married and living at Bridgeport, Conn. Miss Marie Washburne is now the guest of her uncle, Representative Washburne, at his home on Scott circle, and will remain here during the winter.

Mrs. Howard White is receiving a visit from Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton White, of Syracuse, and gave a handsome tea in their honor on Tuesday. With the exception of the early hours and the bonnets and visiting dresses of the guests it was as brilliant as any evening party, and dancing in the ball room and an elaborate supper in the dining room heightened the impression.

Mrs. Sheridan had a large reception on Tuesday and was a most becoming toilet of steel gray, castanet and rose-colored silk, with a netted bodice of cut steel beads. Her assistant, Mrs. Tucker, wore a dark brown satin combined with gray brocade.

There is a brilliant programme of social events for next week, beginning with the charity ball on Monday night, the ball at the British legation on Tuesday, the army and navy assembly and general on Wednesday, and so on through the week.

Miss Green, the author of those admirable novels, "The Leaves of Grass," "The Mysterious Disappearance," "The World of Dances," and "Hand and Ring," arrived here on Thursday, and is a guest at Mrs. Rine's house, No. 623 Thirtieth street.

Ex-Representative Deering and wife, of Iowa, have arrived at the Riggs house, and will occupy their old quarters during the winter.

Mrs. Thomas A. Conkley gave a very pleasant reception at her home, No. 731 Thirtieth street, last Thursday evening. Among the

guests were Mrs. Anderson, Miss Burgess, Misses Eva and Katie Tardy, of Lynchburg, Va.; Mrs. Clark, of Philadelphia; Mrs. Trainer, Capt. Adams, of Vicksburg, Miss; Mr. William McAdoo, Mr. J. Hart Brewer, Mr. John A. Adams, Mr. Trainor, and Mr. Roberts, of New York.

A naval officer living here lately received what he supposed to be a legacy from a deceased relative in the shape of some wonderful paintings, carvings, and bric-a-brac. He had part of his hall wainscoting cut away to accommodate the antique carved bench and mirror frame of solid oak, and set up the wonderful sofas, vases, and several thousands in his drawing room. While in the first flush of his possession a messenger came from the art store through which they had reached him, saying that there had been a mistake made, and that all of these treasures belonged to some one else. The paintings, the vases, and the carved hall pieces now adorn the residence of a western senator who experienced some anxiety as time slipped by without his valuables making their appearance.

Maxwell Tabor, the son of the famous senator, was married in Denver last week to a very charming and lovely young girl. The wedding was a quiet one, and was held in the best taste, and the young couple are now in New York on their wedding tour. On their return to Denver they will reside with Mrs. Augusta Tabor, the first wife of the ex-senator.

It does not seem to be generally understood that the Senator Van Wyck receives no guests this year. The death of three children in quick succession a few months ago has made her home a home of mourning. Some unpleasant disappointments have resulted from ignorance of Mrs. Van Wyck's retirement from society.

The majority of the ladies at the Elliott house have now decided to remain on Monday, and this week there was a large reception party in the main parlor during the afternoon. The wife of Senator Plumb received in the red parlor on Thursday as usual.

Mrs. Warner Miller had the assistance of her mother, Mrs. Churchill, her sister, Miss Churchill, and Miss Surges at her reception on Thursday, and the callers who braved the rain had a cheerful welcome by the blazing fire and an inspiring cup of tea offered them.

Mr. and Mrs. Russell Harrison's cards are out, and announce that they will be at home after March 25 at Helena, Mont. They are expected here very soon, and will join in the busy round of pleasure at now occupies every afternoon and evening.

The beautiful roses and flowers used at the Bachelors' german on Monday night were all sent by New York florists from rosehouses at Morristown, N. J., our own florists being unable to supply the customary demands of the season this year.

K street was again crowded with equipages on Tuesday afternoon, and Mrs. Hagen, Mrs. Bingham, Mrs. English, and Mrs. Drum had a host of callers that even outnumbered those of last week.

The fourth Saturday lecture under the auspices of the Anthropological and Biological society will be delivered at 8 o'clock this afternoon. Maj. J. W. Powell will lecture on "Win-tun Mythology."

The german held at Miss Williamson's house last week was not a private entertainment, but a meeting of an organized german club. The next german of the club will be held at the residence of Col. Lieber.

There was a large reception at the Riggs on Thursday. Mrs. Hatch, Mrs. Soney, Mrs. Steele, Mrs. Flint, Mrs. and Miss Cannon, and Mrs. Dunham and Mrs. Coston receiving together in the main parlor.

There will be a collation at the ball at the British legation on Tuesday evening, and the fete will end as all such entertainments at this legation do with the dancing of the good old Sir Roger de Coverly.

Mrs. Mahlon Ogden Jones, of Chicago, whose first husband was a Russian count, is visiting Mr. and Mrs. L. Z. Leiter at their residence on Dupont circle, and received with Mrs. Leiter on Tuesday.

Bishop and Mrs. Simpson have been staying at Willard's last week. Mrs. Simpson assisted Mrs. Leiter on Wednesday afternoon, and was one of the receiving party with Mrs. Logan on Thursday.

Miss Price, of Philadelphia, who has been visiting Mrs. Stewart on Dupont circle, has returned home, and the Misses Gibbons, of Philadelphia, are now the guests of that charming hostess.

Mrs. B. F. Felix, of Chicago, well known in the society and charitable circles of the North Side of that city, is visiting friends at 623 Thirtieth street, and will remain here for several weeks.

Mrs. J. Brownwell gives a tea at her residence, on Connecticut avenue, this afternoon, and will be assisted by her daughter, Miss Constantine, and by the wife of Senator Groomer, of Maryland.

Miss Crozier, who has been passing several weeks with Miss Rockwell, received with Mrs. Rockwell on Wednesday afternoon, and left the following day for her home in Philadelphia.

At the National on Monday, Mrs. Springer, Mrs. Hill, Mrs. Green, Mrs. and Miss Dunham, Mrs. Blackburn, Mrs. Bagley, Mrs. Spooner, and others, had a large number of callers.

The sister of Justice Gray, who is spending the winter with him, received on Monday afternoon, and many callers gathered about her cheerful fireside during the afternoon.

Ex-Representative Neal has been here lately, and his wife and daughter will probably come here in a few weeks to remain until milder weather sets in at their Ohio home.

Mrs. Angus Cameron received at her residence, on B street, on Monday afternoon, and was assisted by Miss Kiddie, Miss Putnam, Miss Harper, and Miss Wardwell.

Mrs. Hart, of Ohio; Miss Hart, and Mrs. F. Powers will receive on Tuesdays at No. 625 Thirtieth street. Miss Hart is spending the winter here with her parents.

Cards are out for a fancy dress party, with dancing, to be given by Lieut. Scantling to his only child on his fourteenth birthday, Tuesday, Feb. 5, from 3 to 5 o'clock.

Mrs. A. F. Stevenson, of Chicago, who is spending the winter here with her family, receives on Monday afternoons at her residence, 1125 Fourteenth street.

Justice and Mrs. Woods were assisted at their reception on Thursday evening by their daughter, Miss Florence Woods, and by Miss Foster and Miss Hutchins.

Owing to the illness of her little son Bancroft, Mrs. John Davis did not receive yesterday, and has not gone to any entertainments during the week.

Representative Valentine has returned to the city, and since his arrival has received the entire recovery of his wife from her recent illness.

daughters, Mrs. Thatcher and Miss Holman, Mrs. Green, Mrs. Harbor, Mrs. Quackenbush, Mrs. Jolius, Mrs. Bontelle, Mrs. Rackham, Mrs. Miller, Mrs. Freeman, and Mrs. Frothingham.

Mrs. Miller, wife of the California senator, has lent cards for a large fancy dress party on the evening of Feb. 5.

Mrs. Jolius, wife of Secretary Jolius, expects to leave the city soon on account of the ill health of her father.

The next assembly and german of the Army and Navy club will be held on Wednesday evening at the armory.

The wife of Lieut. Hemphill and his sister, Mrs. Cutte, receive on Wednesday at their rooms on N street.

On account of the death of Senator Dolph's mother, Mrs. Dolph did not hold any reception this week.

The wife of Representative White, of Kentucky, receives on Fridays at her apartments on F street.

The wife of Senator Sabin had the assistance of Mrs. J. J. Knox at her reception on Thursday.

Mrs. Bowen, of Colorado, received at the Riggs house on Thursday, assisted by Mrs. J. G. Cannon.

Mrs. C. V. Deuster and her daughter receive on Fridays at their residence on Tenth street.

Mrs. Field is still absent in New York, and will not return in time to receive on Monday.

Mrs. Audenried will soon go to St. Louis to pay a visit to the family of Gen. Sherman.

Senator Farley is still ill at his home and unable to start to Washington.

The Earl of Huntingdon gave a dinner party at the Arlington last night.

Declines to Make a Defense.

Dr. Axel Ames, member of the Boston board of medical examiners of the pension office, who is charged with having used his office to further private interests, and with other irregularities, has declined to make any defense before the commission appointed to investigate the charges, because the commission refused to go to Boston to hear witnesses in his behalf. His action leaves the commission with the ex parte evidence, collected by the special agents, unimpeached before them, and there can be but little doubt of the result of the investigation, which will soon come to an end.

Gen. Ord's Remains.

Representative Lyman, of the house committee on military affairs, was authorized, at a meeting of the committee yesterday, to favorably report to the house a bill for the appointment and retirement of Henry J. Hunt, now retired as colonel at major general. The chairman was authorized to urge consideration at an early day of the senate bill providing for the removal of the remains of Gen. Ord from Havana to Washington.

Surgeon General of the Navy.

The term of office of Medical Director P. S. Wales, as surgeon general of the navy, by virtue of his office as chief of the bureau of medicine and surgery, will expire to-day. Notwithstanding the strong influence in his favor of his reputation, it is generally believed that Medical Director F. M. Gunnell will get the office. A nomination will be sent to the senate next week.

ESSEX COUNTY, Va.—Mr. James E. Micon, clerk, says: "I have used Brown's Iron Bitters and found it valuable for the purposes which it claims."

Book and Job Printing.

C. W. BROWN, 921 F STREET NORTHWEST, FINE JOB PRINTING.

HERBERT A. GIBBS, FINE JOB PRINTING.

GRAY & CLARKSON, BOOK AND JOB PRINTERS.

BOARDING.

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HEALTH IS WEALTH.

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Advertisements under the heads of Wants, For Rent, For Sale, Boarding, Lost and Found, and Miscellaneous, are inserted at the rate of 10 cents per line for the first week, and 5 cents for each additional week, in advance. Business cards not included in these rates.

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